

## MINUTES OF TTF CG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Telecommunications Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TTF CG) was held on February 18, 2004. The following people were in attendance:

### MEMBERS

Jane Lawton OCA (240) 777-3724

David Niblock DPS (240) 777-6252

Pat Hanehan MCPS (301) 279-3609

Steve Batterden DPW&T (240) 777-6063

Helen Xu DTS (240) 777-2804

Carlton Gilbert M-NCPPC (301) 495-4576

### STAFF

Margie Williams OCA (240) 777-3762

Robert Hunnicutt CTC (410) 964-5700

Dave Randolph CTC (410) 964-5700

### OTHER ATTENDEES

Hillorie Morrison T-Mobile

Tom Carroll for T-Mobile

Discussion Item - Meeting Minutes: Dave Niblock moved the minutes be approved as written. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Discussion Item - Distribution Services: Jane Lawton mentioned that a resident had contacted the Tower Coordinator about installing an antenna at his home or office for the purpose of creating an Internet "hot spot" as a business offering to neighbors. Dave Niblock said that a man had also asked him about obtaining a permit to erect an antenna for that purpose, and Dave had advised him that he would need to file an application with the TTF CG. Dave said he has not heard back from that person. Ms. Lawton commented that it might have been the same person who had approached the Tower Coordinator. That person had also been told he would need to go through the TTF CG process. Ms. Lawton stated she wanted the group to be aware that those services were starting to gain attention, and that the County may need to consider a zoning text amendment to address them.

Action Item: T-Mobile application to install nine 48" antennas at the 45' level on the roof of an existing 35' Colewood Center building located at 10801 Lockwood Drive in Silver Spring (Application #200402-05).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application and noted this was a straightforward co-location on the rooftop of the Colesville Center. He added that the applicant had pointed out that the Tower Coordinator's recommendation showed 48" antennas but they were actually 54" antennas, as stated in the application. He distributed photos of the site. Helen Xu asked what the antenna support poles looked like. Mr. Hunnicutt said the poles were usually dark gray, but that the antennas attached to the building facade were sometimes painted to blend in with the building. Hillorie Morrison added that these antennas were a "bone" color. She said that one antenna sector would be attached to the penthouse wall and the other two sectors would be sled-mounted closer to the rooftop edge to minimize any shadowing effect from the building roof.

Jane Lawton asked about the building height. Mr. Hunnicutt explained that the building was 35' tall, meeting the 30' minimum height requirements for this zone.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved the application be recommended. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: T-Mobile application to install nine 72" antennas at the 125' level of an existing 150' monopole located at the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department station at 16911 Georgia Avenue in Rockville (Application #200402-01).

Mr. Hunnicutt summarized the application and noted that the Tower Coordinator's recommendation is conditioned on any Mandatory Referral limitations regarding the use of additional ground space for this application. He said he had requested a copy of the Mandatory Referral for this area from Planning Commission staff but had not received it. He presumed that because the site was public land there would have been a Mandatory Referral to approve the monopole and which may have limited use of the ground space. He stated that since he was uncertain if there are any ground space restrictions for this monopole, he had conditioned his recommendation on compliance with the Mandatory Referral in order to alert the Planning Commission of the increased ground space.

Pat Hanehan commented that the MCPS simply sends the Planning Commission a letter for any changes to Mandatory Referrals.

Motion: Pat Hanehan moved the application be recommended. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: Cingular Wireless application to install twelve 48" antennas at the 54', 56' and 62' level on the roof of the Postal Training Facility located at 10130 Democracy Boulevard in Potomac (Application #200402-04).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application and noted that although this was an application to site 12 antennas at this facility, at the present time only six antennas would be installed. Jane Lawton expressed concern that this carrier might be reserving space for possible future attachments that may prevent other carriers from co-locating at this site in the interim. Dave Randolph stated that the mounting brackets Cingular planned to install on the building are designed to accommodate 4 antennas per sector. He said that of the four antenna slots, two would be used immediately and two would be reserved for future antennas, and he did not believe the larger bracket would take up so much space now as to preclude attachment to the site by other carriers.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved the application be recommended. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: T-Mobile application to construct a new 120' monopole to replace an existing 75' athletic field light at Magruder High School located at 5939 Muncaster Mill Road in Rockville (Application #200402-02).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application and distributed photo simulations of the site with and without the new monopole, and a photo simulation of an aerial view of the surrounding area, which is primarily farmland.

Dave Niblock commented that he had already received a call from another carrier to site antennas on this structure once it is constructed.

Steve Batterden asked if there would be enough space under the bleachers for the equipment building. Pat Hanehan stated that there would not be an equipment building at this location but rather an array of several equipment cabinets. He stated that because of the stadium seating design, there was sufficient room for equipment for these antennas as well as for future co-locators.

Motion: Steve Batterden moved the application be recommended. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was approved with Pat Hanehan abstaining.

Discussion Item - Council Request for Tracking Application Review Costs: Jane Lawton stated that at a recent MFP meeting, Marilyn Praisner asked that the costs for reviewing each application be tracked. Ms. Lawton stated she had provided the Council with her recommendation for tracking application review costs. She stated this recommendation asked how the Council wanted costs for County staff time tracked, including time spent by agency representatives attending meetings. She stated she has instructed the Tower Coordinator to keep records of the costs for each by application and fee category. Margie Williams explained that the recommendation was that actual application review costs to be tracked for each new monopole and tower, but for co-locations and modifications, the costs would be tracked by the fee category.

Discussion Item - AM Towers: Jane Lawton stated that Derick Berlage, Chairman of the Planning Board had asked her and the Tower Coordinator to attend a meeting with him at the Planning Board with representatives from the Montgomery Village Foundation, Congressman Wynn's office, and State representatives regarding the pending modifications for WMET in the Gaithersburg area. She stated she had visited the site and noticed that antenna modifications had already been performed and that they appeared to be at the same height and location as originally approved. She stated that the new transmitter building, which was already constructed, was larger than the old building and in a new location on the property. She stated that the FCC had approved the increase in power and that she did not believe there was anything further the TTFCG needed to do regarding this matter. She stated she would report back to the group regarding the results of the upcoming meeting.

Dave Niblock stated that he had also received inquiries about this site, and his research determined that the original towers were erected in 1961, and there had been a Mandatory Referral review for the site.

Helen Xu expressed concern that there may be interference with the County's 800 MHz public safety radio system. Dave Randolph stated he did not believe there would be any RF interference with the 800 MHz radio service, but some nearby residents may experience ingress on their stereo systems and telephone lines due to the increase in transmitting power.

Dave Niblock added that Section G-243(d) of the zoning text states that existing radio towers may be altered. Carlton Gilbert stated he would try to obtain a copy of the Mandatory Referral review.

Discussion Item - Legislation Update: Carlton Gilbert distributed copies of legislation introduced at the State to re-classify stealth monopoles disguised as flagpoles as "flagpoles" rather than "telecommunications facilities".

The next meeting of the TTFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. in the 2nd floor conference room #225 of the COB.